

REMARKS

Applicant's attorney wishes to express his appreciation for the courtesy of an interview conducted with Examiner Alavi on April 30, 2003.

The examiner has rejected claim 1 as being unpatentable over Choate in view of Bourn.

The undersigned presented arguments to the Examiner during the interview that claim 1 is patentable over the cited references, since Choate does not disclose a moveable focusing element which is operative to decrease the angle of incident when the focusing element approaches the housing, and to increase the angle of incidence when it approaches the workpiece. It is desirable to vary the angle of incidence at which the beams of light are directed toward a workpiece to better illuminate the edges or curved surfaces of the object. The Fresnel lens 20 in Choate does not have that capability.

Further, there is no teaching or suggestion that the Fresnel lens 20 is desired to be moveable, since doing so would defocus the light beams striking the object and would not change the angle of incidence of the light beams striking the object.

Applicant has amended claims 5 and 10 to delete the "lenses" from the claims. Collimated light emitting diodes are well known in the art. For example, attached herewith are a literature from Gilway Technical Lamp and an article, Silverglate, Virtual Rays

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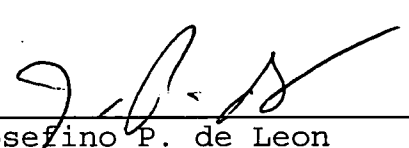
Enlighten Lamp Designs, September 1999, that show the availability of collimated LED light sources.

In view of the above, it is asserted that claims 1-10 are patentable over the cited references and are asserted to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested and an early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Applicant hereby requests an extension of time for two (2) months through May 4, 2003 in order to timely file this amendment. A check in the amount of \$205.00 is attached herewith for the extension fee.

It is believed that no additional fee is due; however, should that be incorrect, please charge Deposit Account No. 19-2105 and inform the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE CLAIMS SHOWING CHANGES MADE

Please cancel amend the following claims.

5 (amended) The combination as defined in claim 4, wherein said light sources comprise a plurality of collimated light emitting diodes ~~having collimating lenses secured over the light emitting ends thereof.~~

10(amended). The combination as defined in claim 9, wherein said illuminating means comprises,

a circular array of collimated light emitting diodes disposed coaxially in said housing and operable to direct light beams radially towards said optical axis, and

a like array of mirrors interposed in the path of said beams between said diodes and said axis and operative to direct said beams in the form of said expanding cone of illumination onto said Fresnel lens at an angle of incidents relative to said optical axis which is the same for all said positions of said lens.